Message Text

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, DA, NEAFC

SUBJECT: DENMARK INCREASES ITS NEAFC WHITING QUOTA

DEPT. PASS COMMERCE: NOAA/WALLACE AND NMFS/BLONDIN

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. A THREAT TO DENMARK'S IMPORTANT FISH MEAL INDUSTRY WAS AVERTED YESTERDAY WHEN THE GOVERNMENT INCREASED THE DANISH NORTH SEA WITING QUOTA BY 20,000 MT FROM ITS ALREADY EXPANDED QUOTA OF 94,000 MT. PRELIMINARY CATCH STATISTICS INDICATE THERE IS ONLY ABOUT 4 PERCENT OF THIS QUOTA REMAINING FOR THE REST OF THIS CALENDAR YEAR. EARLIER THIS YEAR DENMARK FILED AN OBJECTION TO THE 1976 NEAFC RECOMMENDED WHITING QUOTA OF 74,000 MT, AND AT THAT TIME RAISED THIS FIGURE BY 20,000 MT.

2. THE DANISH INDUSTRIAL FISHERY FOR SPRAT AND NORWAY POUT THIS YEAR IS COMPOSED OF APPROXIMATELY 20 PERCENT WHITING. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BIOLOGISTS SPECULATE THERE IS AN UNEXPECTED STRONG YEAR-

CLASS APPEARING WHICH IS CAUSING THE INCREASE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. COMMENT. THE FISHING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION HELD SEVERAL MEETINGS DURING AUGUST, IN JUTLAND, PREPARING THEIR ARGUMENTS TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FOR AN INCREASE. EMOTIONS, AS USUAL, WERE QUITE HIGH WITH INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES TAKING A RESOLUTE POSITION. INDUSTRY CITED, AS A REINFORCEMENT OF THEIR POSITION, LAST YEAR'S ACTION BY THE NETHERLAND'S GOVERNMENT WHICH PERMITTED THE DUTCH PLAICE FISHERY TO CONTINUE FISHING TO THE ENDOF THE YEAR, AFTER THEIR QUOTA WAS FILLED. A FISHERY OFFICIAL CONTACTED BY THE EMBASSY RATIONALIZED THAT AN ECONOMIC CRISIS WOULD BE CREATED BY A SUDDEN SHUTDOWN OF THIS LARGE INDUSTRY BECAUSE THERE IS AN APPARENT NATURAL INCREASE IN WHITING STOCKS. THEREFORE, HE SAID HE HAD TO AGREE WITH INDUSTRY ON THE LARGER QUOTA. A POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL QUOTA INCREASES MIGHT APPEAR IN DENMARK BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR AS THE HADDOCK AND COD CATCHES ARE WITHIN 15 PERCENT AND 20 PERCENT RESPECTIVELY OF THEIR TOTAL ALLOWABLE QUOTAS. DEAN

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